

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT**

Office of Fire and Aviation
3833 South Development Avenue
Boise, Idaho 83705

November 12, 2002

In Reply Refer To:
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EMS Transmission 11/12/02
Instruction Memorandum, No. OF&A 2003-005
Expires: 09/30/04

To: All Field Offices

From: Director, Office of Fire and Aviation

Subject: Interim BLM Standard Operations Procedures Guide (SOP) 2003

Program Area: Aviation Management

Purpose: This Instruction Memorandum (IM) transmits and documents the interim *BLM Standard Operations Procedures Guide (SOP) 2003*. **This guide sets the standards that will be policy during the 2003 fire season.**

Policy/Action: This guide has been developed to provide standardization and policy direction for aviation operations and training. While this document is Bureau specific, it does incorporate interagency standards. This guide supplements the Bureau Manual 9400 sections.

Time Frame: This IM is effective upon receipt and open for comment till December 1, 2003.

Budget Impact: This guide reflects a commitment to safe and efficient aviation operations that cannot be addressed as a direct budget element.

Background: This guide was developed to provide policy guidance for the BLM aviation program.

Manual/Handbook Sections Affected: This Guide supplements the BLM Manual 9400, Aviation Management. BLM Manual 9400 will be revised to reflect this guide as a reference.

Coordination: WO, State Offices, and outside agencies were contacted for input. This document is a compilation of Department of Interior, Federal Aviation Administration and BLM standards and policy.

Contact: This document will be found at <http://www.fire.blm.gov>. If you have any questions or concerns regarding this policy, please address them to Ben Hinkle, Flight Standards / Airspace Management Coordination, 208-387-5184 or ben_hinkle@nifc.blm.gov, an electronic version or copies are available upon request.

Signed by:
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Acting Director
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Attachment

2003 Aviation Standard Operations Procedures (104 pgs.)

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